ARMY Declass/Release Instructions On File

The Files 28 February 1958

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Technical Discussions with USASEL Representatives

1. On 25 February 1958, a conference was held at Alcott Hall with representatives of the Signal Corps from the US Army Signal Electronics Laboratories (USASEL), Fort Monmouth, N. J. Present at these discussions were:

Mr. Joseph Durrer, Chief Combat Area Branch, USASEL
Mr. Lyle Battersby, Assistant Chief, Miniature Equipment Section
Mr. Marvin Curtis, Project Engineer
25X1A9a Mr. [redacted]
Mr.
Mr.

2. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss an agent type transmitter and receiver which USASEL is developing for the Army Intelligence Board under the designations AN/PRT-2 and AN/PRR-7. Permission to discuss agent equipment miniaturization probelms in general and to disclose the technical aspects of project [redacted] was 25X1A2d1 received in advance of the meeting from the OC-E Liaison Office, and Liaison clearances were obtained on the USASEL visitors.

3. Revised Military Characteristics on the PRT-2 and PRR-7 were released by OCSigO during January and USASEL is now preparing specifications for an external development contract. Mr. Durrer anticipates 25X1A5a1 that a sole-source development contract will be awarded to [redacted] 25X1A [redacted] This company has done miniaturization work for the Signal Corps in the past, and has impressed Mr. Durrer and his associates as an energetic and highly inventive group [redacted] 25X1A5a1

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4. The PRT-2 is intended to be an 8 cubic inch 2½ watt cw transmitter operating on 3 to 6 fixed channels in the 3 to 8 megacycle range. A companion transistor receiver, the PRR-7, will be fixed tuned to 3 to 6 channels in the same range, although military characteristics for the receiver call for variable tuning, "if possible". The transmitter operates on 12 volts DC and a DC to DC converter rather than from high voltage batteries.

5. USASEL expects that high frequency power transistors will become available during this development and prefers using as many as three or four of them in tandem to a vacuum tube in the final, if the state-of-the art permits. Mr. Durrer mentioned that he has monitored the development of a 1-watt 20 mc. transistor which may fulfill the requirements of this project. He also said that RCA is developing a 5-watt ceramic transmitting tube under a USASEL component contract.

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6. The Signal Corp representatives were shown the latest engineering models of the Project [redacted] transmitter and seemed greatly impressed by its small size. A full discussion of the technical problems encountered in the sub-miniature equipment was held. Mr. Durrer declared that he felt better equipped to prepare the specifications for the FRR-7 and FRT-2 now that he had seen some miniaturized agent equipment.

7. Mr. Durrer said he had been investigating the Burroughs Nixie tube for use in a visual read-out device for message reception by non-trained operators. The technical aspects of investigations we had made in this field were discussed.

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Attachment:
Military Characteristics for AN/FRR-7 and AN/FRT-2

OC-E/R+D-EP/WJS:mjr (28 Feb. 58)
cc: R+D Subject File
Monthly Report
O+T/SB
OC-E Liaison Officer
Project [redacted] File 25X1A2d1
SIgnal Corp Liaison File
R+D Chrono
EP Chrono